

United States Patent and Trademark Office



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|-------------|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| 10/041,556 | 01/10/2002 | Wilfried Lubisch | 33827-US-009 | 2746 |
| 32116 7590 02/01/2005 WOOD, PHILLIPS, KATZ, CLARK & MORTIMER | | | EXAMINER | |
| | | | COLEMAN, BRENDA LIBBY | |
| 500 W. MADISON STREET SUITE 3800 | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER | |
| CHICAGO, IL 60661 | | | 1624 | |
| | | | DATE MAILED: 02/01/2005 | |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | Application No. | Applicant(s) | | | |
|---|--|---|--|--|--|--|
| Office Action Summary | | 10/041,556 | LUBISCH ET AL. | | | |
| | | Examiner | Art Unit | | | |
| | | Brenda L. Coleman | 1624 | | | |
| | The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply | | | | | |
| A SH THE - Exter after - If the - If NC - Failu Any | ORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REP MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION nsions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1 SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. Period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a report of period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory perior re to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statutely received by the Office later than three months after the mailed patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b). | I. 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days d will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the, cause the application to become ABANDONE | nely filed s will be considered timely. the mailing date of this communication. D (35 U.S.C. § 133). | | | |
| Status | | | | | | |
| · · · · · · | Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>25</u> This action is FINAL . 2b) The Since this application is in condition for allow closed in accordance with the practice under | is action is non-final. ance except for formal matters, pro | | | | |
| Dispositi | on of Claims | | | | | |
| 5)□ 6)⊠ 7)□ | Claim(s) 1-8 and 10-13 is/are pending in the 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdreclaim(s) is/are allowed. Claim(s) 1-8 and 10-13 is/are rejected. Claim(s) is/are objected to. Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/ | awn from consideration. | · | | | |
| Applicati | on Papers | | | | | |
| 10) | The specification is objected to by the Examination The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) acceptable and applicant may not request that any objection to the Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correct The oath or declaration is objected to by the Example 2. | ccepted or b) objected to by the E e drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See ction is required if the drawing(s) is obj | e 37 CFR 1.85(a). ected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d). | | | |
| Priority u | ınder 35 U.S.C. § 119 | | | | | |
| a)[| Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreig All b) Some * c) None of: 1. Certified copies of the priority documer 2. Certified copies of the priority documer 3. Copies of the certified copies of the pri application from the International Burea see the attached detailed Office action for a list | nts have been received. Ints have been received in Application Ority documents have been receive au (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). | on No ed in this National Stage | | | |
| 2) | t(s) e of References Cited (PTO-892) e of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) nation Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08 r No(s)/Mail Date | 4) Interview Summary Paper No(s)/Mail Da 5) Notice of Informal Pa 6) Other: | | | | |

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-8 and 10-13 are pending in the application.

This action is in response to applicant's amendment filed October 25, 2004.

Claim 1, 6, 10 and 12 were amended.

Response to Amendment

Applicant's arguments filed October 25, 2004 have been fully considered with the following effect:

1. With regards to the 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph rejection labeled paragraph 2) maintained in the last office action, the applicant's amendments and remarks have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The applicants stated that claim 1 was previously amended to provide that the prodrugs are phosphates, carbonates, amino acids or esters. However, the definition of pro-drug in the specification is such that pro-drug refers to "those compounds which are metabolized into compounds of te general formula (I) in vivo".

The term pro-drug is of indeterminate scope in that they vary widely from drug to drug. It is not known which moiety of formula (I) would form the basis for the pro-drug. Every ester and amide in theory is biohydrolyzable, i.e. is capable in some degree of hydrolyses. Not to mention the many in vivo environments that this occurs in.

It is the Wands factors, which are used to evaluate the enablement question. In re Wands, 8 USPQ2d 1400 (Fed. Cir. 1988); Ex parte Forman, 230 USPQ 546. The factors include: 1) The nature of the invention, 2) the state of the prior art, 3) the predictability or lack thereof in the art, 4) the amount of direction or guidance present, 5)

Art Unit: 1624

the presence or absence of working examples, 6) the breadth of the claims, and 7) the quantity of experimentation needed.

The nature of the invention in the instant invention has claims, which embrace substituted benzoimidazo[4,5,1-jk][1,4]benzodiazepine compounds. The instant compounds of formula (I) wherein the pro-drugs are not described in the disclosure in such a way the one of ordinary skill in the art would no how to prepare the various compounds suggested by claims 1-8 and 10-3. In view of the lack of direction provided in the specification regarding starting materials, the lack of working examples, and the general unpredictability of chemical reactions, it would take an undue amount of experimentation for one skilled in the art to make the claimed compounds and therefore practice the invention.

Claims 1-8 and 10-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention, for reasons of record and stated above.

2. With regards to the 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph rejection labeled paragraph 3) maintained in the last office action, the applicant's amendments and remarks have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The applicants stated that claim 10 has been amended to delete any reference to "prophylaxis". However, the applicants failed to comment on the enablement rejection with respect to claim 13 and the specific diseases and/or disorders claimed in claim 10. At the time of filing of the present application, the nexus between the Applicants' claimed diseases or disorders and PARP

Art Unit: 1624

inhibitors was not known in the art. While the some of the specific diseases listed in claim 10 have been indicated by the applicants to have a nexus with PARP inhibitors, this does not provide enablement for all of those diseases and/or disorders listed as well as claim 13, which is any and all diseases associated with PARP inhibitors. Treatment of diseases based solely on their efficacious in inhibiting the activity of at least one poly(ADP-ribose) polymerase does not provide for the treatment of every disease and/or disorder claimed herein. Not all diseases and/or disorders are treatable, let alone preventable. There is no evidence that any of the compounds instantly embraced have any one utility generically embraced in claim 13 or specifically recited in claim 10. Where structure sensitivity exists (in the pharmaceutical art) degree of testing must be representative of claims' scope. Note In re Fisher 166 USPQ 18; In re Surrey 151 USPQ 724. Thus the uses being urged are not in currently available form based on the activity relied on and the specification provides only a starting point for further research. Note Genentech vs. Novo Nordisk 42 USPQ 2d 1001. It is difficult to treat many of the disorders claimed herein.

Evidence involving a single compound and two types of cancer was not found sufficient to establish the enablement of claims directed to a method of treating seven types of cancer with members of a class of several compounds *In re Buting* 163 USPQ 689. The remarkable advances in chemotherapy have seen the development of specific compounds to treat specific types of cancer. The great diversity of diseases falling within the "cancer" category means that it is contrary to medical understanding that any agent (let alone a genus of thousands of compounds) could be generally

Art Unit: 1624

effective against such diseases. The intractability of these disorders is clear evidence that the skill level in this art is low relative to the difficulty of the task.

As stated in the MPEP, 2164.08 "[t]he Federal Circuit has repeatedly held that "the specification must teach those skilled in the art how to make and use the full scope of the claimed invention without undue experimentation'." In re Wright, 999 F.2d 1557, 1561, 27 USPQ2d 1510, 1513 (Fed. Cir. 1993). Nevertheless, not everything necessary to practice the invention need be disclosed. In fact, what is well-known is best omitted. In re Buchner, 929 F.2d 660, 661, 18 USPQ2d 1331, 1332 (Fed. Cir. 1991). All that is necessary is that one skilled in the art be able to practice the claimed invention, given the level of knowledge and skill in the art. Further the scope of enablement must only bear a "reasonable correlation" to the scope of the claims. See, e.g., In re Fisher, 427 F.2d 833, 839, 166 USPQ 18, 24 (CCPA 1970). As concerns the breadth of a claim relevant to enablement, the only relevant concern should be whether the scope of enablement provided to one skilled in the art by the disclosure is commensurate with the scope of protection sought by the claims. In re Moore, 439 F.2d 1232, 1236, 169 USPQ 236, 239 (CCPA 1971). See also Plant Genetic Sys., N.V. v. DeKalb Genetics Corp., 315 F.3d 1335, 1339, 65 USPQ2d 1452, 1455 (Fed. Cir. 2003) (alleged "pioneer status" of invention irrelevant to enablement determination)."

Claims 10 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention, for reasons of record and stated above.

Application/Control Number: 10/041,556 Page 6

Art Unit: 1624

3. The applicant's amendments and arguments are sufficient to overcome the 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph rejection labeled paragraph 4a) and 4b) maintained in the last office action, which are hereby **withdrawn**.

- 4. The applicants' amendments and arguments are sufficient to overcome the objection to claim 12 maintained in the last office action, which is hereby **withdrawn**.
- 5. The applicant's amendments and arguments are sufficient to overcome the 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph rejection labeled paragraph 8a) and 8b) of the last office action, which are hereby **withdrawn**.
- 6. The applicant's amendments and arguments are sufficient to overcome the 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph rejection labeled paragraph 9 a), b), c), d), e), f), g), h), l), j), k), l) and m) of the last office action, which are hereby **withdrawn**.

In view of the amendment dated October 25, 2004, the following new grounds of rejection apply:

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter, which the applicant regards as his invention.

7. Claims 1-8 and 10-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The following reasons apply:

Application/Control Number: 10/041,556 Page 7

Art Unit: 1624

a) Claims 1, 2, 4-8 and 10-13 are vague and indefinite in that it is not known what is meant by the definition of w where w is a letter O. It is believed that the applicants intended the numeral 0.

- b) Claims 1-4, 8 and 10-13 are vague and indefinite in that it is not known what is meant by the definition of E where E is –NHCOCHX⁴-. The carbon atom of the CH group is not valence satisfied, i.e. only has three bonds -N(H)-C(=O)-CH-X⁴-.
- c) Claim 6 is vague and indefinite in that it is not known what is meant by the definition of R^4 where R^4 includes the moiety Fo-1². It is believed that the applicants intended G^1 - $F^2_{0,1}$ - G^2 - G^3 .
- d) Claim 6 recite the limitation "F¹" in the definition of R⁴. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.
- e) Claim 7 recites the limitation "F¹" in the definition of R⁴. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.
- f) Claim 10 is vague and indefinite in that it is not known what is meant by the list of diseases and/or disorders which is not stated in the form of a proper Markush grouping.
- g) Claim 11 is vague and indefinite in that it is not known what is meant by the structure of formula II where B is bonded to the H atom.
- h) Claim 11 is vague and indefinite in that it is not known what is meant by the structure of formula III where the NH2 in the ring is not valence satisfied, i.e. the nitrogen atom has four bonds.

Application/Control Number: 10/041,556

Art Unit: 1624

i) Claim 12 is vague and indefinite in that it is not known what is meant by

the variable Y in formula IV where Y is a mono-valent substituent on the ring,

however, Y as defined in claim 1 is divalent.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Brenda L. Coleman whose telephone number is 571-

272-0665. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, James O. Wilson can be reached on 571-272-0661. The fax phone number

for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Brenda L. Coleman

Brenda Coleman

Primary Examiner Art Unit 1624

Page 8

January 31, 2005